

cinereo marginatis; corporis lateribus saturatè cinereis; pedibus albicantibus. Long. tot. 3·3, culmin. 0·65, alæ 1·95, caudæ 0·8, tarsi 0·8.

Fam. TIMELIIDÆ.

PHYLLERGATES CINEREICOLLIS, sp. n.

P. similis P. cucullato, sed collo postico et colli lateribus clarè cinereis distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·4, culmin. 0·65, alæ 1·85, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 0·8.

GARRULAX SCHISTOCHLAMYS, sp. n.

G. similis G. palliato, sed dorso summo toto et scapularibus schistaceis; dorso imo uropygio et supracaudalibus tantùm rufescenti-brunneis. Long. tot. 10·3, culmin. 1·05, alæ 5·1, caudæ 4·45, tarsi 1·85.

TURDINULUS EXSUL, sp. n.

♂. *T. similis T. roberti*, sed regione paroticâ cinerascete nec rufescente distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·6, culmin. 0·65, alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·15, tarsi 0·85.

Fam. MELIPHAGIDÆ.

ZOSTEROPS CLARA, sp. n.

Z. similis Z. atrifronti, sed pectore imo medio et abdomine lætè flavo, pectore et corporis lateribus clarè cinereis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·0, culmin. 0·55, alæ 2·05, caudæ 1·4, tarsi 0·6.

Fam. PARIDÆ.

DENDROPHILA CORALLIPES, sp. n.

D. similis D. frontali, sed pedibus corallinis nec fuscescenti-nigris distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·2, culmin. 0·6, alæ 2·9, caudæ 1·15, tarsi 0·65.

LIII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 371.]

83. 'The Auk.'

['The Auk,' A Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vol. V. No. 2, April, No. 3, July, 1888.]

In the April number of 'The Auk' Mr. F. A. Lucas describes. V.—VOL. VI.

scribes a visit to the Bird Rocks of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, largely frequented by Gannets, Guillemots, &c.; and in the July number gives an account of an excursion to the Penguin Islands, off the east coast of Newfoundland, in search of traces of the Great Auk. Not a bone or fragment of egg-shell was discovered there; but the paper is valuable and interesting, owing to the way in which the author criticises and examines, by the light of his personal experiences, the statements of Cartier and other ancient mariners. Mr. W. Brewster describes as new subspecies (p. 136) *Glaucidium gnoma hoskinsii*, from Lower California; *Mitrephanes phaeocercus tenuirostris*, from Western Mexico; and *Dendroica æstiva sonorana*, from Southern Arizona, Western Texas, and Sonora. He also adds some remarks to a series, as yet uncompleted, of "Notes on the Birds of Fort Klamath, Oregon," by Dr. J. C. Merrill, U.S.A. (pp. 139 & 251). Mr. Cory concludes his long-drawn-out "Birds of the West Indies," and describes (p. 266) *Myiarchus berlepschi*, sp. n., from the island of St. Kitts. We have also the conclusion of Mr. W. E. D. Scott's "Avifauna of Pinal County &c., Arizona," annotated by Mr. J. A. Allen; and (pp. 183-188) Mr. Scott has some "Supplementary Notes from the Gulf Coast of Florida," with the description of a new Marsh Wren, *Cistothorus marianæ*. Mr. W. Amory Jeffries describes (p. 168) *Trochilus violajugulum*, sp. n., from Santa Barbara, California. Mr. William Dutcher's "Bird Notes from Long Island" contain remarks on the frequent occurrence of our Corn Crake (*Crex pratensis*) and on the complete acclimatization of our Skylark (*Alda arvensis*) there; and a record of the first genuine occurrence in America of the Old-World species *Larus minutus*, an immature example having been shot about 15th September, 1887, and identified by Mr. Dutcher; the previous record under that name probably referred to Bonaparte's Gull. Dr. Shufeldt publishes some observations on the pterylosis of certain Picidæ, illustrated by five figures reproduced from 'Forest and Stream' of August 25th, 1887.

On the San Pedro Martir Isle, a rock 1045 feet high and

about a mile and a half square, in about 28° N. lat., in the Gulf of California, Mr. N. S. Goss found, strange to say, two new species of Boobies! One of these is named after him, *Sula gossi*, by Mr. Ridgway; the other is called by its discoverer *Sula brewsteri*. Mr. H. J. Roddy contributes some interesting remarks on the feeding-habits of some young Raptors; and Mr. C. L. Hopkins shows that the impugned sense of smell in *Cathartes aura* is at least sufficient to lead the bird, *up wind*, to a dead skunk and to a live irritated one: which we do not in the least doubt! *Tityra personata griseiceps*, sp. n., from Western Mexico, is described by Mr. R. Ridgway; *Agrytria alleni*, sp. n., from Yungas, Bolivia, by Mr. D. G. Elliot; *Ammodramus sandwichensis brunnescens*, subsp. n., from the Valley of Mexico, by Mr. Amos W. Butler; *Ammodramus maritimus peninsulae*, South-western Florida, and *A. m. sennetti*, from Gulf coast of Texas, subspp. nn., by Mr. J. A. Allen; *Tityra nigriceps*, sp. n., from the Upper Napo, Ecuador, also by Mr. Allen; and *Rallus longirostris scotti*, subsp. n., from the west coast of Florida, by Mr. G. B. Sennett. How long will it be before this “inestimable blessing” of trinomials becomes a curse to its employers, and breaks down from sheer unwieldiness? Mr. D. G. Elliot contributes a useful monograph of the Jacanidæ, but the changes which he proposes in nomenclature seem to us very undesirable. Some papers of local interest are not noticed; amongst them one (pp. 147, 148) which, for the benefit of the Editors we may remark, is omitted in the list of contents of No. 2.

84. ‘*The Audubon Magazine.*’

[The Audubon Magazine, published in the Interests of the Audubon Society for the Protection of Birds. Vol. I. No. 12; Vol. II. No. 1. 8vo. New York: 1888.]

So far as can be judged from two odd parts—all that have reached us—this magazine contains some fair articles of a popular kind; amongst others, notes on the life of Audubon, with illustrations. Miss Florence A. Merriam contributes a series of pleasantly-written articles on “Fifty Common Birds,

and how to know them"; and, as amusing reading, the correspondence respecting our House-Sparrow, between a very sentimental and ill-informed lady and General Spinner, may be cited.

85. *Barboza du Bocage on a new Bird from St. Thomé.*

[Sur un Oiseau nouveau de St. Thomé de la Fam. "Fringillidæ." Par J. V. Barboza du Bocage. Journ. Sci. Math. Phys. e Nat. Lisboa, no. xlvii. p. 148.]

A new genus, *Phæospiza*, with a new species, *P. thomensis*, is the *Passer* sp. inc. of Souza's list (*infra* p. 490), and has since been determined to be *Poliospiza rufibrunnea*, figured in the 'Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.' vol. xii. pl. vi., by Mr. R. B. Sharpe.

86. *Belgian Ornithological Report for 1886.*

[Compte Rendu des observations Ornithologiques faites en Belgique pendant l'année 1886. Bull. Mus. Roy. d'Hist. Nat. de Belgique, v. pp. 99-158.]

As before (*cf.* Ibis, 1887, p. 244), this Report is signed by Dr. Alph. Dubois, on behalf of the Committee, and the number of his collaborators shows an increase. We note that a young *Turdus obscurus* was taken in October 1886 near Brussels, and we do not take exception to the record of the occurrence of *Numenius tenuirostris* in February 1884 under 1886; but surely it is a little late to have the old and well-known *Otis macqueeni* of 1845 put before us. Frivolity apart, there can, however, be no objection to the story by the veteran M. Croegaert of his father's tame Little Bittern, which always passed the night in the embraces of an ape, for the parties concerned must long since have passed away.

87. *Büttikofer on Birds from Liberia.*

[Zoological Researches in Liberia. A List of Birds collected by the Author and Mr. F. X. Stampfli during their last sojourn in Liberia, by J. Büttikofer. Notes from the Leyden Mus. x. p. 59, pl. 5.]

151 species were collected in this locality, which is interesting as the only portion of this part of West Africa of which

the avifauna has been well investigated. No new species were met with, but the known range of many rare inhabitants of the Gold Coast is extended further to the westward. The author believes that *Heliornis* (potius *Podica*) *petersi* may, after all, be the same as *H. senegalensis*.

88. *Dall on the Scientific Work of Professor Baird.*

[Proceedings at a Meeting commemorative of the Life and Scientific Work of Spencer Fullerton Baird, held January 11, 1888, under the joint auspices of the Anthropological, Biological, and Philosophical Societies of Washington. 8vo. Washington: 1888.]

At the above Meeting several Addresses were given; the one by Mr. W. H. Dall, President of the Biological Society, contains an excellent sketch of the labours of the distinguished naturalist whose loss we have recorded with sorrow in 'The Ibis,' 1887, p. 480. We are glad to learn that the United States Senate has voted \$25,000 for his widow.

89. *Fürbringer on the Anatomy of Birds.*

[Untersuchungen zur Morphologie und Systematik der Vögel. Zugleich ein Beitrag zur Anatomie der Stütz- und Bewegungsorgane. Von Max Fürbringer. 2 vols., 1709 pp., 30 pls. Amsterdam: 1888.]

This work is unquestionably one of the most important contributions to our science that has recently appeared; it is, indeed, in its scope almost unique; the only other modern work which can be compared to it being Dr. Gadow's treatise on the anatomy of birds, which is now being issued as a part of Bronn's 'Thierreich.' The first of the two large volumes contains a detailed account of the anatomy of the shoulder-girdle—its bones, ligaments, nerves, and muscles—illustrated by 26 plates; as well as the author's original investigations, which have brought to light many important facts bearing upon the classification of Birds. The second volume is devoted to a consideration of the systematic arrangement, and commences with a critical review of those external and internal structural characters which differ in various birds, and which are therefore of use for classificatory purposes. The facts thus brought together are not, in Prof.

Fürbringer's opinion, sufficient for the establishment of a definite system of classification; he propounds, however, a scheme which is more in accord with what a classification of Birds ought to be than many which have been put forward by ornithologists, inasmuch as it takes into account the sum total of structural variations. These views upon classification are illustrated by four plates representing the affinities of the different groups. Prof. Fürbringer discusses at some length the relations of the Ratitæ to other birds, tabulating the points of agreement and of difference; this is done with the object of discussing how far the views of Wiedersheim and others as to the diphylitic origin of Birds are tenable. The summary of facts points decidedly, as Prof. Fürbringer shows, to the conclusion that the Ratitæ have not been developed from one Reptilian stock (Dinosauria) and the Carinatæ from another (Ornithosauria), but that both have originated from the same stock. The last portion of the second volume is devoted to a discussion of the relationship of Birds to the different groups of Reptiles, the principal points of resemblance to the various groups being shortly stated in a number of paragraphs. The conclusion arrived at is that Birds have not taken their rise from any group of Reptiles known to us; but that, while presenting affinities more or less near to the Dinosauria, Crocodilia, and Lacertilia, they have been derived, in common with these groups, from the primitive Sauropsian stock.

The work concludes with a bibliography, which contains the titles of all the principal publications relative to the anatomy of Birds.

90. *Giglioli on Birds from Assab and Shoa.*

[Note intorno agli Animali Vertebrati raccolti dal Conte Augusto Boutourline e dal Dr. Leopoldo Traversi ad Assab e nello Scioa negli anni 1884-87, di Enrico Hillyer Giglioli. Ann. Mus. Civ. Stor. Nat. Genova, ser. 2, vi. p. 5.]

Dr. Giglioli gives an account of the collection of Vertebrates made by two former pupils of the taxidermical laboratory of Florence—Count Augusto Bourtourline and Dr. Leopold

Traversi. These gentlemen went first to Assab, on the western coast of the Red Sea, and afterwards to Massowa. Failing to get into Abyssinia in this direction, Dr. Traversi, leaving his companion (who was laid up by fever) to return to Italy, went back to Assab, and thence penetrated into Shoa, where he was well received by King Menilek, and remained nearly three years, practising medicine and making collections of natural history. The birds are referred by Dr. Giglioli to 120 species, the greater part of which have been already registered as inhabitants of Shoa by Count Salvadori in his excellent account of the birds of this district (Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova, ser. 2, vol. i. 1884). But 22 species are additions to the list, and 5 of them appear to be new to the Shoa avifauna. Two species are supposed to be possibly new, and called, in such case, *Polioispiza isabellina* and *Bradyornis traversi*; but Count Salvadori (*l. i. c.*) has since declared that the former of these = *P. tristriata*, and the latter = *Lioptilus chocolatinus*.

91. *Irby's Key List of British Birds.*

[British Birds: Key List. By Lieut.-Col. L. Howard Irby. 8vo. London: 1888.]

This work, written by an excellent practical ornithologist, is likely to prove of great service, owing to the large amount of information compressed into a small compass. If a little more care had been bestowed in its revision, it would have been nearly perfect of its kind; as it is, there are several slips and inconsistencies which obviously result from haste, and not from want of knowledge; but these can easily be corrected in another edition.

92. *Koller on the Birds of Holland.*

[Naamlijst van in Nederland in den vrijen natuurstaat waargenomen Vogels. Door H. Koller. Bijdr. t. d. Dierkunde. Feest-numm. Amsterdam: 1888.]

The part of the 'Bijdragen tot de Dierkunde' of the Royal Zoological Society of Amsterdam recently issued, in com-

memoration of the Society's fiftieth anniversary, contains, amongst other excellent memoirs, one upon the native birds of Holland by Herr H. Koller. It is a list of 306 species, to each of which are added particulars of the time and locality of its occurrence in Holland, and an enumeration of the specimens in the Society's collection.

93. *Menzbier on the Posthumous Works of Severtzoff.*

[Œuvres Posthumes de M. le Dr. N. A. Severtzow, publiées par la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou, rédigées par M. M. Menzbier. Nouv. Mém. Soc. Imp. d. Nat. Moscou, xv. p. 141.]

This is a second of the 'Etudes sur les variations d'âge des Aquilines paléarctiques et leur valeur taxonomique,' of which the first has already been noticed (*Ibis*, 1886, p. 197). In the present Part the Golden Eagles are discussed and divided into *Aquila chrysaëtus*, inhabiting Northern Europe and Asia, *A. nobilis*, of temperate and Southern Russia, *A. daphanea*, Hodg., of Turkestan, Northern India, Mongolia, and China, and *A. fulva*, subdivided into five varieties or subspecies, for the rest of the world. Our great authority on Accipitres will, no doubt, deal with this subject when the work is completed by the two further Parts which are promised.

94. *Meyer and Helm on Ornithological Stations in Saxony.*

[II. Jahresbericht (1886) der ornithologischen Beobachtungstationen im Königreich Sachsen, bearbeitet von Dr. A. B. Meyer und von Dr. F. Helm. 8vo. Dresden: 1887.]

Without making invidious comparisons, we may say that it is a pleasure to turn to such a Report as the present. Here everything is in order; a list shows at a glance the 14 species observed in 1885 but not noticed in 1886, while a second list contains the 33 additional species recorded in the latter, with due reference to the pages where the details of each will be found. Remarks on 199 species are followed by a systematic index, so that a worker can quickly turn to any family, genus, or species he may wish to look-up, and, as in last year's Report, there is an excellent coloured map.

95. '*Ornis*.'

[*Ornis*: Internationale Zeitschrift für die gesammte Ornithologie. Herausgegeben von Dr. R. Blasius und Dr. G. v. Hayek. III. Jahrgang (1887), Heft 4; IV. Jahrgang (1888), Heft 1.]

In the former of these Hefte Dr. Radde gives his third Report (for 1885) on the birds of the Caucasus, with a map; Herr Schneider of Basel treats of the species, 263 in number, found in Upper Alsace, Upper Baden, and the Swiss cantons of Basel, Aargau, Solothurn, and Bern; Herr Ziemer notes the increase of *Carpodacus erythrinus* in Pomerania and its general tendency to spread westward; Herr B. Gröndal has a long paper on the Icelandic names for birds; and there are several shorter articles and obituary notices. The latter Heft is almost entirely devoted to a portion (treating of 112 species) of the Report on the birds of the Austro-Hungarian Empire by V. v. Tchusi and K. v. Dalla-Torre, but Dr. Philippi gives a short paper on 80 species observed in Western Atacama and in the province of Tarapacá.

96. *Pelzeln and Lorenz on Types in the Vienna Museum.*

[Typen der ornithologischen Sammlung des k. k. naturhistorischen Hofmuseums. Von August von Pelzeln und Dr. Ludwig von Lorenz, Theil IV. (Schluss). Ann. d. k. k. naturhistorisch. Hofmuseums, Wien, 1888, p. 37.]

This article gives a list of the typical specimens of the Scaup and subsequent orders of birds in the Vienna Museum, and concludes this useful series (*cf. supra*, p. 367).

97. *Salvadori on the Birds of Shoa.*

[Catalogo di una Collezione di Uccelli dello Scioa, fatta dal Dott. Vincenzo Ragazzi negli anni 1884, 85, 86. Per Tommaso Salvadori. Ann. Mus. Civ. Stor. Nat. Genova, ser. 2, vol. vi. p. 185.]

Count T. Salvadori works out in his usual thorough way the collection of birds made in Shoa by Dr. Vincenzo Ragazzi, who, after the death of Antinori, was appointed Director of the Italian Station Lct-Marefia. The collection, made in two years, consists of 823 specimens, which are referred to 276 species. Of these 219 had already been obtained in Shoa by

Antinori and are mentioned in Salvadori's Catalogue of his birds, and 57 had not been obtained by Antinori. From these and other sources the total number of known species of the Shoan Avifauna is calculated to be 385. Ten of Dr. Ragazzi's species are described as new, namely, *Cypselus shelleyi* and *C. myoptilus*, *Cinnyris* (*Eleocerthia*) *ragazzii*, *Chalcomitra scioana*, *Cisticola cinereola*, *Fringillaria poliopleura*, *Serinus flavigula* and *S. reichenowi*, *Estrelda nigrimentum*, and *Urobrachya traversii*.

98. *Saunders's 'Manual of British Birds.'*

[An Illustrated Manual of British Birds. By Howard Saunders. Parts I.-VII. London: 1888.]

The publication of this work was commenced last April, and, when completed in about twenty monthly Parts, the Manual will form a volume of nearly 800 pages, on the plan of allotting two pages—inclusive of the illustration—to each species. Most of the woodcuts are identical with those in the 4th Edition of Yarrell's 'British Birds,' but the following species, not included in that work, have been specially drawn and engraved by Mr. G. E. Lodge:—*Saxicola isabellina*, *S. stapanina*, *S. deserti*, *Sylvia nisoria*, *Tichodroma muraria*, and *Acanthyllis caudacuta*. It has not been considered necessary to occupy valuable space with woodcuts of *Acrocephalus palustris*, *Anthus cervinus*, *Caprimulgus ruficollis* and *C. ægyptius*, as the characteristics of those species could not be shown in black-and-white; but new cuts will be given of some of the Accipitres which were inadequately represented in 'Yarrell.' The systematic arrangement is mainly that of the 'B. O. U. List,' and the Parts already published comprise the Passeres and Picariæ. As regards the letterpress, the last edition of Yarrell has, so far, been taken as a model, but the author has endeavoured to avail himself of our increased knowledge of geographical distribution.

99. *Sclater on the Oligomyodian Passeres.*

[Catalogue of the Passeriformes, or Perching Birds, in the Collection of the British Museum. Oligomyodæ, or the Families Tyrannidæ, Oxyrham-

phidæ, Pipridæ, Cotingidæ, Phytotomidæ, Philepittidæ, Pittidæ, Xenicidæ, and Eurylæmidæ. By Philip Lutley Selater. London: 1888.]

The 14th volume of the Catalogue of the Birds in the British Museum, of which the second titlepage is transcribed above, was published on the 28th of June last. It has thus been issued in advance of the 13th volume, which will contain the remaining families of the Oscines, and, as we understand, the Pseudoscines, and "is not expected to be completed before 1889." The 14th volume is devoted to the first section of the Mesomyodian Passeres of Garrod's arrangement, *i. e.* to those in which the syrinx remains nearly as in the Oscines, but has a lesser number of singing-muscles. They are therefore called Oligomyodæ.

The second section of Mesomyodian Passeres (Tracheophonæ) will form the subject of the 15th volume, which Selater now has in course of preparation.

The number of specimens of Oligomyodian Passeres in the Collection of the British Museum, as enumerated in the present volume, is 7360. "These are referred to 665 species, leaving only 38 species probably valid, but unrepresented in the Collection. The series of specimens is generally very complete, and the range of the species is in most cases admirably shown by the localities affixed to them. For this very valuable feature the Museum is mainly indebted to the Salvin-Godman Collection, with its unrivalled set of specimens obtained directly from the collectors."

Only one new specific title is first published in the present volume, namely, *Chloropipo holochlora*, but three new generic terms are used, namely, *Ochthornis* for *Elainea littoralis*, Pelz., *Cænotriccus* for *Todirostrum ruficeps*, Lafr., both of the family Tyrannidæ, and *Coracopitta* (in place of *Melampitta*) of the family Pittidæ.

Twenty-six coloured plates drawn by Smit are attached to the volume and illustrate the following species:—*Agriornis pollens*, *A. insolens*, *A. solitaria*, *Tenioptera holospodia*, *Ochthodiaeta fusco-rufus*, *Ochthæca leucometopa*, *O. citrinifrons*, *O. pulchella*, *Platyrrhynchus flavigularis*, *P. albigularis*, *Euscarthmus russatus*, *E. impiger*, *Leptopogon erythrops*, *Tyran-*

niscus cinereiceps, *T. gracilipes*, *Elainea olivina*, *Rhynchocyclus fulvipectus*, *Sirystes albocinereus*, *Muscivora occidentalis*, *Cnipodectes subbrunneus*, *Myiobius flavicans*, *M. roraimæ*, *Ceratopipra iracunda*, *Heteropelma wallacii*, *H. flavicapillum*, *H. igniceps*, *Heterocercus aurantiivertex*, *Hadrostomus homochrous*, *Pachyrhamphus spodiurus*, and *Iodopleura leucopygia*.

100. *Sousa on the Birds of St. Thomé.*

[Enumeração das Aves conhecidas da Ilha de S. Thomé, seguida da lista das que existem d'esta Ilha no Museu de Lisboa. Por José Augusto de Sousa. *Jorn. Sci. Math. Phys. e Nat. Lisboa*, no. xlvii. p. 151.]

A list of the birds of the island of S. Thomé, West Africa, with a catalogue of twenty-four species from that locality in the Lisbon Museum. A Sparrow is supposed to be new to science, but the specimens, being prepared in spirits only, are not described (*cf.* Barboza du Bocage *suprà* p. 482).

101. *Taczanowski on Caucasian Birds.*

[Contributions à la Faune Ornithologique du Caucase. Par le Dr. L. Taczanowski. *Bull. Soc. Zool. France*, 1887, p. 618.]

Two collections, made principally in the district which lies between Tiflis and the Caspian, have added 5 species—of no special interest—to the lists already published by Dr. Radde and the late M. Bogdanoff. The Crested Lark has already been subdivided into about thirty species and subspecies; to these Dr. Taczanowski adds *Galerita cristata caucasica*. Altogether remarks are made on about twenty birds.

102. *Tegetmeier on Pallas's Sand Grouse.*

[The New Game Bird, Pallas's Sand Grouse: its Natural History, with a plea for its preservation. By W. B. Tegetmeier, F.Z.S. 8vo. London: 1888.]

This is a well-compiled, illustrated pamphlet, in which the sources of the author's information are duly acknowledged. Our sympathies are naturally with the writer in his praiseworthy attempt to secure protection for our visitors of the

present year; but although some of them have undoubtedly bred, we fear that our climate and soil will prove—not too cold, for these birds can stand severe dry cold—but too wet for them to establish a permanent footing. On this point we give an extract of a letter, dated August 13th, from an excellent observer, Mr. R. Service, of Dumfries:—"Sand Grouse still continue on the estate where they first appeared. There were more than sixty of them at one time, but they gradually dispersed, and there is now only a small flock of nine left. I was over the ground yesterday with one of the keepers. Only seven were shot, and these within the first few days after arrival. The utmost protection has been extended since, and although the ground was as suitable as possible in this country, none bred—two pairs were observed to separate as if for breeding-purposes, but they also disappeared. So that if plenty of keepers (who were all much interested in them), most suitable ground, plenty of feeding-ground, the utmost rest and quiet, did not induce them to breed, the birds themselves were to blame, or possibly the cold *wet* summer we have had."

LIV.—*Letters, Extracts, Notices, &c.*

We have received the following letters addressed to the Editors of 'The Ibis':—

British Consulate, Noumea,
May 27th, 1888.

SIRS,—It is long since I had the pleasure of sending you any ornithological news from this far-away land, but I am now in a position to add a bird to our native fauna, and hasten to record it. This morning I received from Mr. Cecil Vivian, of H.M.S. 'Diamond,' now in our harbour, a specimen of a Cormorant, the first that has reached my hands, though our friend M. Grasset has described birds from the northern end of the island which, no doubt, were of this genus (*cf.* Ibis, 1882, p. 542). We were much surprised on examining it to find that it was the Little Black Cormo-